IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of

NESSETT et al.

Atty. Ref.: 922-88

Serial No. (To be assigned)

Group:

Filed: March 21, 2000

Examiner:

For: METHOD FOR SECURE INSTALLATION OF

DEVICE IN PACKET-BASED COMMUNICATION NETWORK

March 20, 2000

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, DC 20231 Sir:

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

In order to place the above-identified application in better condition for examination, please amend the application as follows:

IN THE ABSTRACT

Please add the attached ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE on a separate sheet.

Respectfully submitted,

NIXON & VANDERHYE P.C.

Larry S. Nixon Reg. No. 25,640

LSN:ms

1100 North Glebe Road, 8th Floor

Arlington, VA 22201-4714 Telephone: (703) 816-4000 Facsimile: (703) 816-4100